hydro projects with a aggregate capacity of 2.11 MW have been set up in Assam.

Karbi Langpi (Lower Borpani) (100 MW) is being implemented in Assam by Assam State Electricity Board at a cost of Rs. 485.90 crore (December, 2002 Price Level) and is likely to be commissioned in 2006-07. This project has been allocated Rs. 15 crore for the year 2005-06.

Subansiri Lower HEP (2000 MW) is being implemented in Central Sector by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation in Arunachal Pradesh/Assam border at a cost of Rs. 6285.33 crore (December, 2002 Price Level). This project has been allocated Rs.500.73 crore for the year 2005-06 and is scheduled to be commissioned in September, 2010.

In addition, according to the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES), which is the nodal Ministry for small hydro power projects up to 25 MW capacity, 8 small hydro projects with an aggregate capacity of 51 MW are under construction in Assam. Of these, MNES has provided capital subsidy for 2 projects, namely, Lungnit Stage-I and Lungnit Stage-II of 3 MW capacity each. No state-wise financial allocations and targets are fixed by MNES.

Renovation and modernization of BTPS and CTPS

306. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has done any cost-benefit analysis for the renovation and modernization of Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) and Chandrapur Thermal Power Station (CTPS) of Assam;

(b) If so, when the actual work of R&M is going to be started; and

(c) whether any agency or organization has been engaged so far for the R&M of BTPS?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Power has identified Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (4x60 MW) (BTPS) for Renovation & Modernization (R&M) and Life Extension (LE) Programme (LEP) during 10th Plan. Accordingly, at the initiative of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Assam State Electricity Board has decided for undertaking R&M/LE of BTPS with involvement of Bharat Heavy

Electricals Ltd. (BHEL), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC). PFC had sanctioned two loans of Rs. 2.18 crores and Rs.2.27 crores on 14.11.2003 to ASEB for carrying out Residual Life Assessment (RLA)/LE study of BTPS. However , the loan were not executed by ASEB. A loan of Rs. 4.28 crores was sanctioned in November, 1998 by PFC to ASEB for R&M of Chandrapura Thermal Power Station. Only an amount of Rs. 1.67 crores was drawn by ASEB. Primary Assessment to restore Units 3&4 (by cannibalizing from Units 1&2) by a comprehensive overall to make them operationalize on a sustained basis. Detailed revival plan is under formulation stage in consultation with NTPC.

Percentage of people living below the poverty line

307. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the latest study was done to ascertain the percentage of people living below the poverty line State-wise;

(b) the details of such survey;

(c) the criteria on which the poverty is assessed;

(d) the concessions provided to the people living below the poverty line; and

(e) time frame by which poverty shall be completely eradicated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and State level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest quinquennial round of survey, on the basis of which data on the percentage of people living below the poverty line was ascertained, was done in the year 1999-2000 (55th Round). The State-wise information on percentage of people living below the poverty line during 1999-2000 is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Planning Commission uses the per capita consumption expenditure as the criteria to determine the persons living below poverty